shipping lines which bring substantial number of transhipment containers into the country.

(b) Does not arise as no firm order has been received till date.

(c) and (d) The impact, if any, of such temporary relaxation on Shipping Corporation of India will be closely monitored at the time of implementation.

Coal Handling Plant at Paradeep

226. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal to set up a coal handling plant at Paradeep has been pending since long;

(b) if so, the reasons for the delay;

(c) the expected time of the implementation of the above proposal; and

(d) the steps taken in the above matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) A number of alternative schemes to arrive at the least cost solution for coal transportation from Talcher mines to coastal thermal power stations were studied by RITES who gave their report in April, 1988. On the basis of the recommendations of this study, a comprehensive project report for the recommended alternative of rail-cum-sea transportation of coal from Talcher to Ennore through Paradip Port was prepared by Dutch Consultants whose final report was received in October, 1990. In consultation with the various concerned agencies, schemes for coal handling facilities at Paradip/ Ennore have been finalised.

(c) The facility at Paradip is expected to be completed within 4 years from the date of commencement of work.

(d) The proposal requires an investment decision by the Government. The case is being processed to obtain approval of Government.

Increasing hotel accommodation at Tourist spots in Orissa

227. SHRI JAGDISH JANI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the hotel accommodation available in Orissa is very inadequate so that tourists have been facing a lot of problem particularly at the places of tourists spots; and

(b) if so, the details of steps being taken to provide adequate hotel accommodation in the Central sector to accommodate tourist visiting Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arse.

Reconstitution of Boards of Air India and Indian Airlines

228. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have initiated to professionalise and debureaucratise the Boards of Management of the Air India and the Indian Airlines;

(b) whether the reconstitution of these Boards is long over due; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take to reconstitute new Boards consisting of professionals?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) Even as per current practice, non-officials are appointed to the Boards of Management of Air India and Indian Airlines with professional experience. Only a limited number official Directors as are concerned with the operation of the two airlines are appointed to the two Boards.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Appointments to senior post in Air India

229. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any rules had been framed by the Air-India for appointment of Deputy Directors, Senior Managers and other senior officers in the Departments of Engineering and Airport Services; if so, when;

(b) whether Government would lay on the able of the House of Parliament a copy thereof; and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the manner in which the selection and appointments to these posts had been made during the year 1990-91 and till date?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The appointment to the post of Deputy Director is made either by horizontal transfers or internal promotion. As regards appointments to the posts of Senior Managers and other Senior Officers, promotions are effected from amongst the officers of the respective Departments. The promotion policy and procedures have been laid down by Air India. The appointments made during 1990-91 have followed the laid down procedure. There is no legal requirement to place such circulars on the Table of the House. However, the service regulations have been placed on the Table of the House.

Flights operating between Kerala and Middle East Sector

230. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that at present Air India and Gulf Air lines are operating on Kerala-Middle East Sector;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this effected the revenue of Air India and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether other air lines are also opting for this route; and

(d) if so, what steps Government propose to take to protect the interest of Air India?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Emirates and Saudia have also expressed their desire to operate to Trivandrum directly. Trivandrum was declared as an international airport for the convenience of the travelling public. While interests of Air India would be watched access may have to be given to foreign airlines in the interest of travelling public.

Excess Baggage of Indian Hockey Team

231. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether members of the Indian Hockey Team on their way back from Auckland via Singapore were off loaded at the Singapore airport as they had access baggage and no money to pay;